

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A floating self-propelled cleaning device for water surfaces, comprising:

a) a floating body comprising a first and a second floating element;
b) at least one net-shaped ~~collecting~~-collection container arranged between said floating element, said net-shaped collection container connected to said floating body and having an inlet;

c) a first and a second propelling means arranged respectively on said first and second floating elements suitable for generating opposite thrusts that cause the rotation of said floating body, so that the inlet of said container sweeps a portion of the water surface;

d) means for providing and switching energy alternately to each of the first and second propelling means so as to generate intermittent thrusts thereby causing a shifting movement to said floating body that serves, together with said rotation, to move the floating body horizontally on the water surface; and

e) at least one electric energy source integrally associated with said floating body for providing and switching energy to said first and second propelling means,

wherein said means for causing a shifting movement comprises a distribution element that distributes alternately the energy to each propelling means for generating intermittent thrusts, and

wherein said distribution element distributes alternately the energy to each propelling means with the rotation of the floating body.

2. (original) The device, according to claim 1, wherein said means for causing said floating body to rotate comprises at least one jet means suitable for generating a thrust that causes the rotation of said floating body about an instantaneous centre of rotation.

3. (currently amended) The device, according to claim 1, wherein said floating body comprises a central body and said two side floating elements connected to said central body from opposite sides.

4. (original) The device, according to claim 1, wherein said means for causing a shifting movement comprises at least a distribution element movable with respect to said floating body suitable for cooperating with said or each propelling means for generating intermittent thrusts.

5. (original) The device, according to claim 1, wherein said means for causing a rotation comprises a first and a second propelling means arranged at said side floating elements and opposite to each other, said means for causing a rotation comprising two water jets forming a propelling couple with respect to said centre of rotation.

6. (original) The device, according to claim 2, wherein said or each propelling means is in a position distanced from the centre of rotation.

7. (original) The device, according to claim 1, wherein said means for causing a shifting movement comprises at least a distribution element movable with respect to said floating body suitable for operating said or each propelling means for generating intermittent thrusts.

8. (previously presented) A floating self-propelled cleaning device for water surfaces comprising:

- a) a floating body;
- b) at least one net-shaped collecting container connected to said floating body and having an inlet;
- c) a first and a second propelling means suitable for generating opposite thrusts that cause the rotation of said floating body so that the inlet of said container sweeps a portion of the water surface;
- d) means for providing and switching energy alternately to each of the first and

second propelling means so as to generate intermittent thrusts thereby causing a shifting movement to said floating body that serves, together with said rotation, to move the floating body horizontally on the water surface; and

e) at least one energy source for said first and second propelling means,

wherein said means for causing a shifting movement comprises at least one distribution element movable with respect to said floating body suitable for operating each propelling means for generating intermittent thrusts and wherein said distribution element comprises a blade disposed substantially under the water when in use and associated with a distribution element for alternately selecting each propelling means.

9. (previously presented) A floating self-propelled cleaning device for water surfaces comprising:

a) a floating body;

b) at least one net-shaped collecting container connected to said floating body and having an inlet;

c) a first and a second propelling means suitable for generating opposite thrusts that cause the rotation of said floating body so that the inlet of said container sweeps a portion of the water surface;

d) means for providing and switching energy alternately to each of the first and second propelling means so as to generate intermittent thrusts thereby causing a shifting movement to said floating body that serves, together with said rotation, to move the floating body horizontally on the water surface; and

e) at least one energy source for said first and second propelling means,

wherein said means for causing a shifting movement comprises at least one distribution element movable with respect to said floating body suitable for operating each propelling means for generating intermittent thrusts,

wherein said distribution element comprises a blade disposed substantially under the water when in use and associated with a distribution element for alternately selecting each propelling means and

wherein said distribution element is a cam disk that operates each propelling means alternately by a switch.

10. (original) The device, according to claim 7, wherein said distribution element is a two-way valve arranged in a central chamber of a deflecting element that directs alternatively a water flow to two outlets having apertures oriented in opposite directions in order to generate a thrust in corresponding opposite directions.

11. (original) The device, according to claim 1, wherein at least a feeler pawl is provided suitable for blocking the delivery of energy to a corresponding propelling means when the device meets an obstacle.

12. (Withdrawn) A floating self-propelled cleaning device for water surfaces, comprising:

- a) a floating body;
- b) at least one net-shaped collecting container connected to said floating body and having an inlet;
- c) a first jet and a second jet suitable for generating opposite thrusts that cause the rotation of said floating body, so that the inlet of said container sweeps a portion of the water surface;
- d) a distribution element comprising a two-way valve in a central chamber of a deflecting element that directs alternatively a water flow to two outlets having apertures oriented in opposite directions in order to generate a thrust in corresponding opposite directions for providing and switching energy alternately to each of said first and second jets so as to generate intermittent thrusts thereby causing a shifting movement to said floating body that serves, together with said rotation, to move the floating body horizontally on the water surface; and
- e) at least one electric energy source integrally associated with said floating body for providing and switching energy to said first and second jets.